MINUTES

OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE

BOILING SPRING

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH, CLEBURNE COUNTY,
ALABAMA, SEPTEMBER 26, 27 AND 28, 1885.

OFFICERS.

THOS. H. HOWLE, Delta.....Moderator
JESSE C. BEAN, Oxford.....Clerk.
W. G. PRESTON, Rocky Mount.....Treasurer.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA:
JAS. P. HARRISON & CO., PRINTERS AND BINDERS.
1885.

MINUTES

OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE

BOILING SPRING

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH, CLEBURNE COUNTY,
ALABAMA, SEPTEMBER 26, 27 AND 28, 1885.

OFFICERS.

THOS. H. HOWLE, Delta.....Moderator
JESSE C. BEAN, Oxford.....Clerk.
W. G. PRESTON, Rocky Mount.....Treasurer.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA:
JAS. P. HARRISON & CO., PRINTERS AND BINDERS.
1885.

MINUTES

—OF THE—

Boiling Spring Baptist Association.

On Saturday, September 26th, 1885, the Boiling Spring Baptist Association met in twenty-sixth annual session, in Bethlehem Church house, Cleburne county, Alabama, at 11 o'clock a. m

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Rev. J. G. Nail, from Ecclesiastes 12th chapter and part of the 14th verse; followed by Rev. Mansel Garrett, Sr.

1:30 o'clock p m.

After an intermission of one hour the Association was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. T. H. Howle.

Prayer by Rev. W. H. Preston.

The Moderator requested Brethren J. C. Taylor, E. A. Stansel and W. M. Daniel to receive, and Bros. J. A. Wright, A. J. Preston and J. H. Fullerton to read the Church letters.

The following named Messengers were enrolled:

FIRST DISTRICT.

Bethlehem—W. N. Bean, J. C. Beem. J. M. Camp. Lewis Manning, W. P. Humphries, I. T. Henderson and W. J Young, alternate.

Sardis—W. H. Summers, J. N. Roden, Z. I. Wyatt, James Wyatt, alternate

Liberty—J. L. W. Davis, E. A. Stansell, D. L. Wilkerson, W. S. Clark, alternate.

Ebenezer—S V. Hughes, J. T. Hughes, G. N. Banister.

Providence—T. M. Freeman, J. E. Burk, J. T. Milsaps, W. F. Wade.

Salt Creek—T. N. Butterworth, Albert Adams, T. J. Carden, A. J. Adams, J. H. Adams, W. G. Ruston.

Union—J. A. Dover, W. H. Thompson, S. B Turner, J H. D. Dempsey, alternate.

Mt. Pisgah—J. W. Gentry, W. J. M. Odell, W. F. Reaves, James Hopkins, alternate.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Hephzibah—B H. Brown, T. C. Morrison, J. H. Howle.

Bethel—Thos. Miller, W. M. Daniel, H. W. Armstrong, N. T. Leverett, alternate.

Pleasant Hill—J. H. Morris, N. C. Kennedy, J. M. Campbell, S. W. Stuart, A. W. Johnson, J. N. Williams, alternate.

New Harmony—Not represented.

Heflin—J. W. Hendon, A. H. Edmondson, J. C. Taylor.

Bethsaida—J. C. Abel, W. T. Gann. J. H. Abel.

THIRD DISTRICT.

Mt. Moriah—A. M. Smith, E. F. Lester, J. H. Garrett, W. G. Preston, alternate.

Ramah—J. B. Payne, J. K. Hardy, S. B. Smith, W. B. Matthews, J. H. Fullerton, alternate.

Christiana--J. R. McKinney, G. W. Barfield, W. H. Taylor, J. T. Thompson, alternate.

Good Hope--Isaac Haynes, W. W. Payne, W. E. Reagan, W. H. Ingram, alternate.

Pleasant Grove—J. J. Hardy, W. J. Lake, C. H. Mason, T. J. Moore, W. J. Hardy, L. Grabin, alternate.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The Moderator requested Elders J D. Qualls and W. A Scott to act as tellers.

Elder T. H. Howle was re-elected Moderator, and J. C. Bean re-elected Clerk.

The Moderator, in a few brief remarks, accepted, and announced the body organized and ready for business.

On motion, adopted the former Order of Business.

The rules of decorum were read.

The Committee on Preaching reported Revs. H. C. Knight and W. H. Preston to preach at that hour.

Appointed Bros. J. H. Morris, N. T. Leverett and J. T. Thompson committeemen on Preaching; to confer with the Deacon of Bethlehem Church.

Called for churches desiring membership with this body.

A letter from Lime Hill Church, Talladega county, was presented but was rejected.

Received a letter with the following Brethren, viz.: J. W. Hendon, A. H. Edmonson and J. C. Taylor from Heflin Church

Called for correspondents and received from the following Associations:

Carey—Elders J. D. Qualls, W. A. Scott, Bros. J. N. Moore and Aaron Bell.

Coosa River--Bros. C. J. Lacy, W. W. Bigby, J M. Davis.

Ten Island and Talasahatchee--Elder Mansel Garrett, Sr., Bros. W. J. Jordan, W M. Rhodes.

Invited visiting brethren to seats with us.

The Committee on Preaching reported Elders W. A. Scott and J. N. Moore to preach at night, and Elders J. D Qualls and M. Garrett, Sr., to preach at 9 o'clock a. m. Sabbath.

On motion, adjourned until 8:30 o'clock a. m. Monday.

SABBATH EXERCISES.

Sabbath, 9 a. m , sermon by Rev. W. M Garrett. Prayer by Rev. E. Miller. At 11 the Missionary sermon was preached by Rev. A. F. Allen, followed by Rev. T. H. Howle. At 2 o'clock p m. the stand was occupied by Rev. T. H. Howle and A. J Preston, and at night by Revs. J. M. Barrett and J. D Johnson.

The weather was gloomy, but the congregations were large and attentive, and in the different sermons sin with its false doctrines was exposed, and the principles of the King of kings were beautifully illustrated to those present.

MONDAY, 8:30 o'clock a. m.

Association met according to adjournment.

Prayer by the Moderator.

The roll was called and absentees marked thus *.

Renewed the call for correspondents and received from the Arbacoochee Association Rev. W. H. Wright.

Called for reports of standing committees.

The report on Domestic Missions was read and adopted. (See report A.)

The report on the Bible was read and adopted. (See B.)

The committee to receive Queries reported none.

The report on Temperance was read and ably discussed by Bros. Allen Taylor W. H. and A. J. Preston, Wright, Garrett, Graham, and adopted. (See C.)

Suspended the regular order of business and received Bro. J. R Graham as correspondent from the Ten Island and Tallasahatchee Association.

The Committee on Preaching reported Bro. James Shadix, Jr., and W. H. Wright to preach at the s and

The report on Sabbath-schools was called for, but the committee was absent.

The report on Dancing was read, and after considerable discussion adopted. (See D.)

The report on Foreign Missions was read and ably discussed by Brethren Garrett, Qualls, Daniel, Allen, Wright, Knight, Lacy, Johnson and Garrett.

On motion adjourned one hour for refreshments.

1 o'clock p. m. The body re-assembled in the house, and was led in prayer by Bro. A. J Preston.

The discussion of Foreign Missions was continued by Bros. A. J. and W. H. Preston, and the report adopted. (See E)

The report on Obituaries was read and adopted. (See F.)

The report on Publications was read and tabled.

The report on Family Worship was read and adopted (See G.)

A financial committee was appointed, viz: Brethren Young, Smith, Payne, Fullerton and Hendon.

The report of the Executive Committee was read and adopted. (See H)

Appointed correspondents to sister Associations as follows: Carey—Bros. H. C. Knight, A. J. Preston and J. S. Moore. Arbacoochee—J H. Morris, J. C. Taylor, A. J. Preston, B. H. Brown and J. D. Johnson. Ten Island and Tallasahatchee—A. F. Allen, A. J. Preston, W. H. Preston, T. H. Howle and W. J. Young. Coosa River—A F. Allen, W. M. Garrett, W. H. Preston. A. J. Preston, J. A. Wright and J. D Johson.

On motion this body holds its next annual session with Ramah Church at Delta.

On motion the Committee on Preaching appoint a brother to preach the next Introductory Sermon. Committee appoints Elder W. H. Preston, and Elder W. J. Campbell, alternate.

Heard the report of ministers.

Brethren A. H. Allen, A. J. Preston and Henry Armstrong were appointed, and Mansel. Garrett, Sr., requested to assist them, to get up such a history of this Association as described in the first resolution.

Report of Finance Committee was read and adopted. (See I.)

The Treasurer's report was read and adopted. (See J.)

Appointed an Executive Committee as follows: J. C. Taylor, W. W. Payne and J. H. Morris.

On motion the Clerk have ten dollars for his services, and the balance of the minute funds be appropriated for minutes.

On motion dispensed with the reading of the minutes.

Sang a hymn, gave the parting hand, was led in prayer by Elder J. D. Qualls, and the Association adjourned to meet with Ramah Church Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1886.

J. C. Bean, *Clerk.* T. H. Howle, *Moderator.*

W. G. Preston, *Treasurer.*

Note.—There seemed to be a stronger missionary spirit in the body at this session than there has been in several years previous; we believe that the time is near at hand when our churches will respond willingly to the noble cause of missions.

DISTRICT MEETINGS.

The general meeting of the First District will convene with Union Church Friday before the second Sabbath in August, 1886.

The general meeting of the Second District will convene with Heflin Church Friday before the second Sabbath in July, 1886.

☞Time and place of Third District not given.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED.

Resolved, 1. That the Moderator appoint three brethren of this body to get up a short history of this Association, when it was organized, where at, who preached the first introductory and mission sermons, and so on until the present time, and report at the next session of this body.

2 That this Association recommend the careful perusal of the Bible, and the following religious journals and literature: *Alabama Baptist*, Montgomery, Ala.; *Home and Foreign Mission Journal*, Richmond, Va.; *Christian Index*, Atlanta Ga.; *Tennessee Baptist*, Memphis, Tenn.; *Baptist Reflector*, Chattanooga, Tenn.; and the American Baptist Sunday-school literature, Philadelphia, Pa.

3. That we defer the choice of a brother to preach the missionary sermon until Saturday of our next session.

4. That the thanks of this meeting be extended to the Chairman for the able and impartial manner in which he has presided over its proceedings; to the Secretary for his patient and obliging discharge of his duties, and to other officers, for the satisfactory manner in which they have fulfilled the functions assigned them.

5. That we extend a most hearty and sincere expression of our thanks to the brethren of Bethlehem Church, and the citizens of this community, for their friendly hospitality toward this Association during its session in their midst.

STANDING RESOLUTIONS.

6. That this Association is in profound sympathy with all movements which look to the suppression of the sale and drinking of intoxicating liquors.

8. That it is the sense of this Association that the reported desecration of the Sabbath day by members going to and from market is totally at variance with the sacred Scriptures, and not to be tolerated.

9. That every minister of this Association be requested to have as many as two appointments each month during the next associational year, and report to this body the amount of labor at the next regular session.

STANDING COMMITTEES TO REPORT NEXT SESSION.

Domestic Missions.—H. C. Knight, J. H. Fullerton, B. H. Brown.
Foreign Missions.—W. H. Preston, J. M. Barrett, W. J. Young.
The Bible.—A. F. Allen, J. W. Chandler, W. M. Daniel.
Obituaries.—J. W. Stephens, A. H. Edmondson, W. F. Wade.
To Receive Queries.—J. T. Thompson, E. A. Stansell, S. V. Hughes.
To Answer Queries.—J. G. Nall, J. H. Abel I. H. Garrett.
Family Worship.—W. J. Campbell, E. Miller, Isaac Haynes.
Temperance.—W. M. Garrett, J. S. Moore, Albert Adams.
Sabbath-schools.—A. J. Preston, James Schadix, Jr. N. T. Leverett.
Dancing—J. D. Johnson, J. J. Hardy, E. D. Hanson.
Publications—J. H. Wright, J. M. Campbell, J. M. Camp.

The Southern Baptist Convention will hold its next session with the First Baptist Church of Montgomery, Alabama, convening Friday before the second Sabbath in May, 1886, P. H. Mell, D. D., LL. D., Athens, Ga., President; Lansing Burrows, D. D., Augusta, Ga., and Rev. Oliver Fuller Gregory, Charlotte, North Carolina, Secretaries.

The next session of the Baptist State Convention will convene with the Baptist Church at Birmingham the week preceding the third Sunday in July, 1886. John Haralson, Selma, President; Benj. B. Davis, Eufaula, Secretary.

APPENDIX.

REPORT ON DOMESTIC MISSIONS. (A)

We, your committee, appointed to report on destitutions, beg leave to report as follows: We learn that New Harmony Church, situated south of Heflin, Cleburne county, is in a destitute condition as to a pastor.

Respectfully submitted. J. T. THOMPSON, Chairman.

REPORT ON THE BIBLE. (B)

Dear brethren, the many reports already offered on the subject, which have been assigned us make us feel incompetent to the task. However, it is not expected that we should enter into an elaborate discussion of the subject at present. We will only notice a few of the reasons why that the Scriptures should be read. Solomon gives the admonition, "Get wisdom, get understanding; forget it not, neither decline from the words of my mouth. Forsake her not and she shall preserve thee; love her and she shall keep thee. Wisdom is the principal thing, therefore get wisdom, and with all thy getting, get understanding." Prov. iv. 5.

This Solomon says not with reference to the wisdom of the world, but to that sublime and eminent wisdom which consists in the exact knowledge of all God's counsels and ways, and of his several manners and reasons of his governing the world and dealing with good and bad men. This wisdom can be acquired only from the Bible or the word of God. Now, we know that many men who possess a great amount of the wisdom of this world, go down to destruction, for "The world by wisdom knew not God." And Peter tells us that when the Lord Jesus shall come with his mighty angels he will take vengeance upon them who know not God. Job having mentioned several hidden things which man's wisdom has found out, he asks the question, "But where shall wisdom be found?" Job xxvii. 12. Paul tells Timothy that the Scriptures were able to make wise, etc. We, therefore, conclude that in the search for wisdom we should go to the Bible. The word Bible generally stands for the sacred books of the Old and New Testaments, written by holy men, as they were inspired, instructed and enabled by the Holy Ghost. 2 Tim. iii. 16. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine to declare and confirm the truth; for reproof, to convince of sin and confute errors; for correction, to reform the life; and for instruction in righteousness, that is to teach us to make a further progress in the way to heaven, or to instruct us in the true righteousness revealed by the gospel of Jesus Christ, in which we may appear with comfort before God. The inspired writings of the Old and New Testaments are called the Scriptures. The Bible, or The Book, by way of eminence and distinction, because they far excel all other books. For

1. They contain the whole will of God necessary to be known for our salvation.

2. They contain that wisdom which is far above all the wisdom of this world. 1 Cor. ii. 7. Paul says, "We speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the world unto our glory."

3. They were inspired by the Holy Ghost. 2 Tim. iii. 16. 2 Peter i. 21.

4. They were penned by the most excellent of men for wisdom and holiness, as Moses, David, Solomon, the prophets, apostles and evangelists.

5. They are most perfect, pure, deep and immutable, and contain all things necessary for faith and practice. Ps. xix. 7, 8. 2 Tim. iii. 16, 17. 1 Pet. i. 23.

6. No writings but these bring such glory to God, or have such saving efficacy in converting the souls of men. Ps. xix 7, 8. Heb. iv. 12. The Scripture is a preservation against error. Christ says, "Ye do err, not knowing the Scripture nor the power of God." Daniel (speaking in regard to the statutes of the Lord) says, "More are they to be desired than gold, yea, than much fine gold. sweeter also than honey and the honey comb." Moreover, by them are thy servants warned; and in keeping of them there is good reward. Ps. xix. 10, 11. To keep them is to obey their instructions. And how can one obey unless he knows what to obey? Let us, therefore, read with diligence and prayer. And let us thank God that to-day the Bible is found in 226 languages and dialects, and 148,000,000 of copies have been circulated; and let us thank God that the thirst for religious knowledge, for a knowledge of God's word, is rapidly increasing, and may the time soon come when all nations of the earth shall read it for themselves. Respectfully submitted.

A. J. PRESTON, Chairman.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE. (C)

Your Committee on Temperance beg leave to make the following report: The excessive use of strong drink is most ruinous to the social and religious relations of life. Drunkenness is plainly condemned in the Word of God. God's people are commanded to be holy and to abstain from the appearance of evil. It is truthfully attested by the sad experience of thousands, and the observation of all, that moderate drinking is the stepping stone to drunkenness.

The church member who sells to his fellow-man ardent spirits to be used as a beverage is living daily exposed to the woe which God pronounced in Habakuk ii. 15.

Brethren, is there a true lover of Jesus among us who would be found drinking this destructive liquor, or is there one who is dealing out the abominable stuff? Let us think of the wonderful consecration of the Son of God, in the assumption of human flesh, the life of purity, his character, his agonizing death, and all for us. Can any lover of such Saviour be found to-day doing wilfully what is displeasing to his Master? Now it certainly was not pleasing for men to be engaged as instruments in the destruction of the souls and bodies of others. "As ye have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him."

Respectfully submitted.

E. MILLER, Chairman.

REPORT ON DANCING. (D)

We, your committee who were assigned the duty of writing a report on the subject of dancing, to be handed in at this session of your honorable body, offer the following as our response: In taking cognizance of this important subject, we design noticing it under two distinct features or characters; for we are sure that there are two kinds of dancing which are very dissimilar both in motion and design. The one we are pleased to denominate a Bible, Holy or Godly dance; the other, a worldly or Satanic dance. The first, which we have been pleased to denominate a Godly dance, is that in which David indulged, and which he recommends in the last chapter of his book of Psalms and 4th verse, in which he says, "Praise him (that is praise the Lord) with timbrel and dance." This kind of dancing is prompted by elations of joy which are made to swell up in the soul of the Christian by the quickening powers of God's divine Spirit, and is not unfrequently accompanied with shoutings and loud hallelujahs to God. The joys that thrill the soul while thus animated by the superabundant supply of God's grace are inexpressible, and can only be known and felt by those who, at the time of such elations of joy, are moved to action by the impelling power of God's Holy Spirit.

This kind of dancing is, therefore, comely in the sight of all true lovers of God, and is doubtless approbated by God himself and his holy angel. But, alas! alas! how sad to see our fellow mortals indulging in the Satanic dance! especially when we reflect for a moment and see its demoralizing, debasing and soul-destroying effects. The young, the giddy and the gay no doubt often flatter themselves with the vain hope of being benefited in one way or another by attending the ball room and in engaging in revelry. But, oh, how deluded! Many young ladies have been robbed of their health by overheat and exhaustion while attending such places of amusement, as they are pleased to term them, and not a few have been borne from such places to be shrouded and consigned to the narrow limits of the silent grave to await the summons of Gabriel's trump, in the morning of the resurrection, when doubtless they will meet their God with shame and confusion of face to hear the sentence pronounced, "Depart, for I know you not" But perhaps some one will say, you are certainly mistaken; surely there can be no harm in dancing; it is only an amusement or pastime, and I am sure that it improves one's appearance greatly. Why, there is nothing that is more ennobling to a young man or a young lady than to be an expert dancer. It causes them to hold themselves more erect, and hence makes them more graceful in appearance. O, what a delusion! But no wonder, for all such suggestions are propagated by the wicked one, whose business has ever been to deceive the family of Adam. Satan, with all his ingenuity and skill, has never been able to offer anything to man on earth which is more subtle or deceptive in its natural tendency than that of dancing and reveling. In this, as in most of his devices, he weighs its importance and its necessity by presenting something to fascinate, even as when he beguiled Eve in the garden of Eden by telling her that hers and Adam's condition would be better-d, in that they would become to be wise like gods knowing good and evil. Then, brethren, since such reveling is advice of the wicked one, and since it is one of the prevailing evils of the day, let us raise our voices against it.

Respectfully submitted. A. F. Allen, Chairman.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS. (E)

We, your Committee on Foreign Missions have written the following: We believe that Christ was a foreign missionary, for he left his home in heaven and came down to earth to preach his gospel, and he gave all he had, even his precious blood on the cross, for the salvation of his enemies. And in 2 Tim. i. 4-10, we find that life and immortality was brought through that gospel; and in Mark xvi. 15, He told His apostles to "go and preach my gospel to all the world." What gospel? The gospel of Jesus—that gospel that brings life and immortality to light, and that gospel they preached for which many of their lives were taken. And Paul preached it, told Timothy and the churches to preach it. And, as we are the successors of the apostles in doctrine, we should preach it to heathens and anywhere we can, though it takes our life, our money, our all; and, as we cannot stand in the Boiling Spring Association, and our voices be heard across the waters, we should give our means to support some brother to go there that they may hear the sacred truths, for we learn in the Scriptures that God loves a cheerful giver, and again, that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

We find from the report of the Southern Convention that we supported 108 foreign missionaries last year on $2,150, and now those that have been brought to life by the gospel give about $2 per head for the support of the same; and now they cry out, through brother H. A. Tupper, Corresponding Secretary, for $500,000 for this year, which will take about 3½ cents per member. So now, dear brethren, let us prove what we are—we say that we are missionaries, and if we fight that principle we fight what the church was constituted for, for the Church of Christ is to go into all the world and preach the gospel, and the gospel is the Bible, and the Bible says, "Go," and the Bible says preach, and the Bible

says believe, and the Bible says that those who don't believe is condemned already, and if they die the same they rise the same, and torment is their doom. And the Bible says faith cometh by hearing, and how can they hear without a preacher, and how can he preach except he be sent; and again, without faith it is impossible to please God; and again, by faith we become Abraham's seed; Abraham's seed are saved, and them only. Now, if we believe these Scriptures, then everybody must have faith, and if faith comes by hearing, then everybody must hear, or they cannot have faith, and if we become Abraham's seed by faith, and Abraham's seed are all that are saved, then everybody must have faith or they cannot be saved.

Now, as these Scriptures are true, let us bring the matter home to ourselves. If my children were in a land where there is no Bible, what would I do? I think that you would send them one. Then we are told to not have the faith of God with respect of persons. But some professors object to our plan of sending the gospel to heathen lands, and say that there is no land that has not the Bible; but we find from reports of foreign mission journals that there are 700 000 000 people who have never heard the gospel, and we learn that 86 cents in every dollar reaches its destination. Now, if that plan can be bettered do it; if not, sustain it, for the Bible is not changed about by our whimsy notions; we cannot justify ourselves in violating God's holy law because other people do not as we best like. God gave the law to the church; the church was composed of individual members, and they are equally responsible for that law, and as long as that law stands and there is a Christian on the globe, it is enforced. Oh, when we behold the carelessness of brethren, and the idolatry of the heathen, our heart bleeds, for to-day they are bowing to stocks and stones, worshiping images made with their own hands, taking the blood of Christians While we thank God that we have the Bible and no one to hinder nor make us afraid to pray and preach, there are thousands that are not so. May God incline our hearts to give as he has prospered us is our prayer. WM. M. GARRETT, Chairman.

REPORT ON OBITUARIES. (F)

We, your Committee on Obituaries, submit the following report: Since the last session of this body, the Lord in his wisdom and power has seen proper to remove from the walks of men brother Richard Wilkerson, a deacon of Salt Creek, in the 66th year of his age, and brother Wadsworth Claredy, a deacon of Bethel, in the 85th year of his age, and we hope and trust that our loss has been their eternal gain. Respectfully submitted. J. G. NALL, Chairman.

REPORT ON FAMILY WORSHIP. (G)

We, your committee appointed to write an essay on this subject, beg leave to present the following: True family worship is pure and undefiled religion, such as every professed Christian should possess. Dear brethren, it is around the family altar that we should begin to obey the commandments of our Heavenly Father. Through Solomon he teaches us to bring up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; therefore, let those of us who have families entrusted to our care call them around the fireside twice each day, and ask God to bless them with us, and enable us to "train them up in the way they should go, so when they are old they will not depart from it." Respectfully submitted.

J. M. BARRETT, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. (H.)

Your committee beg leave to present the following report: We find a small discrepancy in the amount received by the financial committee and the amount paid by our efficient Clerk for minutes. We find that our Treasurer has in hand for Home Mission purposes $13.75. Indigent Ministers' fund, $5.75, and he holds vouchers for $26.70, Foreign Mission

fund. Your committee forwarded, by your instruction from this body, the amount of cash appropriated for that purpose, and have in hand receipts for $26.70 forwarded to Bro. H. A. Tupper, Secretary Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va. Respectfully submitted.

J. A. WRIGHT, Chairman.

FINANCIAL REPORT. (I.)

Your committee submit the following report: We find

For Minute funds	$ 27 95.
For Foreign Missions	2 75.
For Home Missions	4 60.
For Missions	10 75.
Total amount	46 05.

Respectfully submitted. W. J. YOUNG, Chairman.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Your Treasurer begs leave to report the following: I find a balance on hand of $20.35, divided as follows—

Home Missions	$ 7 50.
Indigent Ministers' fund	5 75.
State and other collections	6 30.
Usury on ten dollars	80.
	$ 20 35.

ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 1885.

Received from Finance Committee for minute funds and Clerk's fees	27 95.
Foreigns Missions	2 75.
Home Missions	4 60.
Missions	10 75.
Indigent Ministers' fund	2 25.
Total,	$ 48 20.

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR POST-OFFICES.

A. F. Allen ..... DeArmondville.	H. C. Knight ..... Christiana.
J. M. Barrett ..... Kentuck.	E. Miller ..... Oak Lone.
J. G. Nall ..... Kentuck.	J. W. Chandler ..... Chulafinnee.
W. J. Campbell. ..... Chulafinnee.	T. H. Howle ..... Delta.
J. J. Teague ..... Abercrombie.	W. M. Garrett. ..... Delta.
Jas. A. Shadix, Sr. ..... Shinbone.	J. W. Stephens ..... Delta.
W. H. Preston, ... Rocky Mount.	F. M. Campbell ..... Heflin.

LICENTIATES.

Wylie M. Adams ..... Kentuck.	A. J. Preston ..... Rocky Mount.
Jas. A. Wright ..... Kentuck	J. L. Chandler ..... Chulafinnee.
J. D. Johnson ..... Chulafinnee.	P. L Chandler ..... Oxford.
J. C. Heptingstall ..... Chulafinnee.	E D. Hanson ..... Oxford.
J. S. Moore ..... Lineville.	William O'ell ..... Oxford.
Leroy Hodnett. ..... Lineville.	John A. Shadix ..... Shinbone.
Jas. A. Shadix, Jr. ..... Shinbone.	

☞ Bethel Church sent direct to Bro. H. H. Tupper, for Foreign Missions, $10.00, which is not shown in the Statistical Table.

☞ $1.10 of the amount sent up from Mt. Moriah was raised by the sisters of that church. We hope the example set by these ladies will be followed by others until the sisters of all the churches will feel that they have been instrumental in sending forth the gospel.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present
3. The Moderator shall be deemed a judge of order, and shall have the right to call to order at any time.
4. Any member not satisfied with his decisions on any point of order may appeal to the Association on the same day, but at no other time.
5. But one person shall speak at a time, and he shall rise to his feet, and, on obtaining leave, proceed to speak, not exceeding fifteen minutes at any time, without leave from the Association
6. The Moderator, when addressed for leave to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person, or otherwise
7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject or use words of personal reflection; and every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by him that made it.
8. Every case taken up by the Association shall be first decided or withdrawn before another is offered.
9. When anything is taken up by the Association, after allowing time for debate, the Moderator shall take the question by yeas and nays.
10. The Moderator shall pronounce the decision of the body immediately after it is decided.
11. No person shall depart during the services of the Association without leave.
12. The appellation of "Brother" shall be used in our addresses to each other.
13. The names of the members shall be called as often as the Association may direct.
14. No brother shall be allowed to indulge in any practice that has a tendency to interrupt in time of public speech.
15. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as any other member, provided he appoint some other to his seat while he is speaking, but shall not vote unless the Association is equally divided.
16. Any person breaking this Decorum shall be reproved at the discretion of the Association, but only on the day the breach is made.
17. All cases coming before the Association shall be decided by a majority of the members present, except the reception of churches in our union, which shall be unanimous.
18. The Rules of Decorum shall be read at the opening of each session of this body.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. The ordained and licensed ministers, together with the lay members who are regularly chosen delegates, and who are in good standing in our union, shall compose this Association. Ministers are not considered as delegates, but are considered as members, and have the same privilege of debate and vote as other members and of performing any other duty assigned them by the body.

II. The members so chosen shall produce letters or other evidence from their respective churches certifying their appointment, together with the state of their churches since their last representation.

III. The members thus chosen and convened shall be called the Boiling Spring Baptist Association.

IV. This Association shall sit as an advisory council, and shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor infringe on the internal rights of the churches, but shall have power to withdraw from any church proved to be unsound in faith and practice according to the Scriptures; and any church that fails to represent itself for two associational meetings shall be deemed in disorder. It shall then be the duty of the Association to appoint two or more brethren to visit said church to ascertain the cause of its delinquency, and report the same to the next Association.

V. If one church commits an offense against another, it shall be the duty of the offended to labor with the offender; and if it fails to obtain satisfaction, it shall call the aid of two or more sister churches; and if satisfaction cannot be obtained, the aggrieved church may lay the case before the Association for advice; and if a serious difficulty should arise in an individual church, which, after due labor, it cannot reconcile, it may call to its aid two or more churches of its union; and if the difficulty be not then removed it shall be the duty of the church to bring the case before the Association, to be acted on as above prescribed; but the Association shall take cognizance of no case unless a due course of procedure shall have been taken.

VI. Any church desiring admittance into this union shall petition by letter and messengers, and, if found orthodox, shall be received by the Association through the Moderator's giving the messengers the right hand of fellowship.

VII. Each church in our union shall have three delegates until it has fifty members, and then one additional delegate for every twenty-five members after the first fifty.

VIII. Any church has a right to authorize any brother over whom it has jurisdiction to exercise in public, if, in its judgment, it may deem him worthy; but in licensing we recommend the churches to call to their aid experienced members from other churches. In cases of ordination we recommend that two or more ordained ministers be called to aid in the same, and that a report be made at the next Association.

IX. This Association may correspond with any Baptist benevolent institution she may deem expedient, and shall be considered a co-worker with all the missionary enterprises of the day, as far as authorized or required by the Scriptures.

X. This Association shall have power at the convening of each session to elect a Moderator and Clerk, who shall hold office until the next regular election.

XI. Any amendment may be made to this form of Constitution at any time when two-thirds of the Association may deem it expedient.

XII. Any church wishing a letter of dismission shall make application therefor by letter.

ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES, WITH PROOF.

1. We believe in one only true and living God—the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, these three in one.—1 Cor. 8. 4; Isaiah 44. 6; 45. 5. 21; "Thou hast created all things." Rev. 4. 11; Gen. 1; Heb 3. 4; Jer. 10. 12; Ex. 15. 11; Isa. 6. 3.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God and the only true rule of faith and practice.—Proof; 2 Pet. 1. 21; Acts 1. 16; 3--21; Rom. 3. 2; 2 Tim. 3. 16; Heb. 1. 2; 2 Pet. 3. 16.

3. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.—Proof: Rom. 5. 12; 14. 19; Gen. 3. 6--24; Ps. 51. 5.

4. We believe in man's inability to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, by his own free will and holiness.—Proof: Eph. 2. 1--3; Isa. 53. 6; Gal. 3. 10-22; Rom. 3. 19.

5. We believe in the doctrine of election through santification of the Spirit and belief of the truths.—John 3 16; Eph. 2 4-10; 1 John 4. 10; Phil. 2. 6-7; Heb. 2. 15-16.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the merits of Jesus Christ.—Proof: Tit. 3. 7; Phil. 3. 9; Rom. 5. 1-5-9; Gal. 2. 16-19.

7. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace, and not finally fall away.—Proof. Matt. 10. 22; John 10. 28-29; 4. 14-17; 2. 7.

8. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the on y proper subjects, and conscientiously do believe that the true mode of baptism is immersion.—Proof: Matt 28. 20; Acts 2. 42; Mark 1. 4-9.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and general judgment."—Proof: Acts 24. 15; Luke 14. 14; John 5. 28; Matt. 13. 49; 24. 31; 25. 32.

10. We believe that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.—Proof: Matt. 25. 26; Ps 9. 17; Dan 12 2

11. We believe that no minister has a right to the administration of the ordinances, only such as has been called of God, and regularly baptized and approved by the church, and come under the imposition of hands by a presbytery.

12. We believe that none but believers have a right to the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

☞In the Statistical Table we see the amount for Minutes is $27 40, which does not correspond with the report of the Financial Committee.

☞Clerks of churches, please write plainly the statistics of the churches.

Statistical Table.

	CHURCHES.	COUNTY.	PASTORS.	POST OFFICE	CLERK'S ADDRESS.	Receiv'd by Baptism	Received by Letter.	Restored.	Dismissed by Letter.	Excluded.	Deceased.	Total Membership.	Sabbaths of Meeting	Minute Fund.	Clerk's Fee.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Missions.	General Fund.
First District.	Bethlehem	Cleburne	A. F. Allen	DeArmonville	W. J. Young	..	9	..	14	1	..	132	3	$ 3 50	.....	.....	.....	$1 25	...
	Sardis	Talladega	J. G. Nall	Kentuck	James Wyatt, Chinnobee	...	...	1	..	1	..	31	2	...	.....	...	.....	.....	...
	Ebenezer	"	"	"	Not Given.	9	3	..	.	.	..	48	4	1 00	.....	.....	...	.....	...
	Providence	"	E. Moore	.....	J. T. Millsaps White Cloud	7	...	..	.	.	..	39	1	2 00	50	.....	.....	.....	...
	Salt Creek	"	J. G. Nall	Kentuck	L. N. Butterworth, Kentuck	1	9	..	8	2	2	100	3	1 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
	Union	Clay	J. A. Shadix, Sr.	Shinbone	J. T. Dameron, Shinbone	19	3	.	..	..	2	53	2	1 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
	Mt. Pisgah	Cleburne	J. W. Chandler	Oxford	P. L. Chandler, Oxford	...	2	1	7	1	..	24	2	60	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
	Liberty	Talladega	J. M. Barrett.	Kentuck	E. A. Stansell	1	...	..	3	.	.	30	1	1 10	.....	.....	.....	.. ..	...
Third Dist. Second Dist.	Hephzibah	Cleburne	F. M. Campbell	Heflin	J. H. Howle, Oakfuskee	4	7	..	5	3	..	86	3	1 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
	Bethel	Clay	W. T. Davis	Lineville	N. T. Leverett, Oak Lane	4	5	.	2	..	2	75	2	1 50	1 00	. .	.....	.....	...
	Bethesda	Cleburne	J. W. Chandler	Oxford	J. H. Abel, Chulafinnee	15	4	1	..	..	1	43	4	1 25	.. .	.....	.....	.....	...
	Pleasant Hill	"	F. M. Campbell	Heflin	J. M. Campbell, "	9	19	1	3	7	4	113	1	2 00	... .	.....	.....	.....	...
	*New Harmony	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	...
	Heflin	Cleburne	J. A. Scott	Davisville	W. T. Edmondson, Heflin	...	5	..	2	..	..	24	1	1 50	... .	.....	.....	.....	...
	Mt. Moriah	Clay	W. M. Garrett	Delta	H. M. Smith Rocky Mount	9	9	2	4	3	2	66	2	1 50	... .	2 20	... .	.. .	50c
	Ramah	"	"	"	J. K. Hardy, Delta.	14	5	2	1	.	..	93	3	2 50	. ...	2 40	25	.....	...
	Christiana	Randolph	.....	.....	J. R. McKinney, Christiana	14	4	3	11	3	..	76	4	1 50	... .	.....	2 50	...	...
	Pleasant Grove	Clay	H. C. Knight	Christiana	T. J. Moore, Lineville	5	1	1	10	2	2	109	2	1 50	50	.....	... .	2 50	...
	Good Hope	"	W. M. Garrett.	Delta	Not Given	3	2	..	3	.	2	48	4	1 50	... .	.....	.....	... .	...
	*Mt. Olive	.....	.....	.....	.....	..	.	..	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	.....	....	....	...
	Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	114	108	12	73	23	17	1190	..	$25 95	$2 00	$4 60	$2 75	$3 75	50c